

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 06593 252225Z

63

ACTION OPIC-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-05 /028 W

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R 251907Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3974

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 6593

E O 11652 NA

TAGS EFIN EAID CO

SUBJ: OPIC PROGRAM IN COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR

REF STATE 161546

1. I BELIEVE DATES OF AUG 26-27 ARE STILL UNSATISFACTORY FOR BOGOTA. THE NEW GOVT MINS WILL HARDLY BE IN THE SADDLE BEFORE AUG 12 AND APPOINTMENTS DOWN THE GOVT HIERARCHY WILL STILL BE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING MADE THROUGH THE FOLLOWING WEEK OR TWO. HENCE GOC AUTHORITIES WILL SCARCELY BE SET IN THEIR SADDLE BY AUG 26 AND WILL BE IN NO POSITION TO GIVE THE MATTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. I RECOMMEND THE VISIT OCCUR NO EARLIER THAN THE SECOND WEEK OF SEPT. THIS WILL GIVE THE NEW GOVT TIME TO ORGANIZE ITSELF AND GIVE US TIME TO ASSESS THE SITUATION.

2. RE PARA 3 REFTEL OPIC SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT SUGGESTION IT USE A COLOMBIAN NOMINEE INSURER WAS MADE BY ROBERTO SOTO, WHO WILL PROBABLY LEAVE THE MIN WITH PASTRANA REGIME. IT DOES NOT REPRESENT A GOC COUNTER-PROPOSAL BUT A PERSONAL INVESTIGATION OF A POSSIBLE FORMULA.

3. I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE FULLER EXPLANATION OF PHRASEOLOGY PARA 2 REFTEL. WHAT PRECISE POINTS ARE YOU DRIVING AT?

4. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT WHILE I DO NOT OBJECT TO EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND SEEKING OF CLARIFICATION OF GOC LEGAL POSITIONS I WOULD NOT APPROVE OF THE TEAM ENTERING INTO A LEGAL

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DEBATE WITH THE NEW GOVT AS TO WHAT COLOMBIA'S LAW MEANS.

THIS WOULD BE NO WAY TO BEGIN RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE NEW ADMIN. VAKY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
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